

HISTORY OF MARY MURRAY MURDOCH DUKE RYAN

Mary Murray Murdoch was born on May 20, 1852 on the bank of a small ditch or creek at a wood camp nine miles from Kansas City, Kansas. Her father John Murray Murdoch said the following concerning the event in a letter written to Mary who was working in Salt Lake City at the time:

Entirely forgot to post until today.
Please excuse my neglect and write soon.

Heber May 30th, 1896

My Dear Daughter Mary,

We got your loving little letter wrote on your 44th birthday all right, while scanning it over many reflections came to our minds of the past. I thought of the first time that I looked at your pleasant little face. It was in a very small tent put up in a hurry for the occasion, your mother being already in hard labour. You very soon made your first appearance to us in the midst of the most terrific thunder storm I have witnessed either before or since. The couch on which you and your Mother still lay was yet on the floor, and hail and rain had fallen all over camp to the depth of six inches or more and beginning to come into the tent. But the camp being nearby some growing timber, I soon got some sticks and soon had you and Mother and a bedstead high and dry above the slush and mud.

Camp laid over a day or two until the storm was over and the roads dried up a little. During this time I was doctor, nurse and cook, washerwoman and general superintendent. Your mother had provided some tea a bottle of wine and a few crackers. Aside from this we had flour and bacon. I fed your mother on fried donuts and bacon.

She did much better all along with you than any of the rest, either before or afterwards. I suppose as the old saying is, the back is made for the burden that it has to carry. Your mother carried you in her arms over the plains more than 1000 miles, and was healthy and strong. But ever since then I have been pained to see your sweet little innocent lips stained with the juice of wild roots for want of any other food. And altho in your early life you suffered much privation and passed through many hardships, I am happy to know that you have had faith to endure all with patience and womanly fortitude. And thank heaven better days have come to us all.

I am happy to tell you that those who were sick when you left are all well. Stella, Cliff Hickens death was very sudden, of which you no doubt have heard. Mary Ann and all the rest of your family except Dick were over and paid us a visit. They are all well. I expect you have seen the program for decoration day but the storm and floods prevented it. Is expected tomorrow (Monday) if the weather will permit. It is still raining and the waters are very high. All is well here at present. Some of us may be in about the fourth if all is well, if so we will surely see you. Mother sends kind love to your self David and Lizzie and all inquiring friends. Not forgetting your precious jewel the baby. Please excuse this awful hand writing, it is the very best my old cramped fingers will allow.

From your loving father,

J. M. Murdock.

Her mother, Ann Steele Murdoch, said, "That while she was in the agony of Labor, she would reach out and get water with her hand and to relieve her discomfort would bath her face and hands." The cholera had broken out in the camp and many people were dying. The guard on duty that night heard her crying and went to the tent to inquire who had cholera there, but he learned that a little baby girl had just been born, to this poor childless couple they having recently buried their two older children on the trip down the Mississippi River as they were traveling toward their goal of Zion (Utah). Sister Elizabeth, the oldest, was 3 years 8 months and brother James was 1 year 8 months old at death. What a joy and comfort it must have been to John and Ann to have a new baby. They named her Mary Murray Murdoch after her paternal grandmother, "Wee Granny" who was just four feet seven inches tall and weighed a little over 90 pounds. Mary was the third child in this family out of fifteen children to be born, six brothers and nine sisters.

It was nine months from the time Mary's parents, John and Ann, had left Scotland until they arrived in Salt Lake City, September 3, 1852. Mary's father, John Murray Murdoch, after joining the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormon) in 1850, in Scotland, was called by the Prophet of the Church, Brigham Young, to come to Zion to herd his sheep. Upon arriving, and receiving a kindly welcome from Brigham Young after being introduced as the Scotch Shepherder, he was told the wolves had eaten many of the sheep and Brigham's brother was tending the rest. However, Brigham gave him some good advice and helped him to find employment. John worked some for him digging his potatoes and doing odd jobs. John had quite a struggle the next few years, as did most of the pioneers to get food and shelter, for his family. In 1854 the grasshoppers destroyed most of the crops and the family had very little to eat. Ann with her little daughter Mary would go out in the hills and dig sego and thistle roots and eat them to appease their hunger. During this time three

more daughters were born to them; Ann, Janett Osborne, and Sarah Jane. Mary was the big sister and she assumed a lot of responsibility for one so young by taking care of her little sisters and helping her mother in many ways.

In a story of Mary's life written by her sister, Janett O.M. McMullin, she writes: "Mary grew to be a nice little girl and was such a comfort to her parents after losing their two oldest children. Her life was made up of pioneering even when she was a very young child. When Ann was born in 1854 they grew up as twins and helped to make their home a happy one. Mary helped with the chores and when her father went into the chicken and wild duck business, she helped her mother pluck out feathers then she would be so proud to dress up and go with her mother to deliver the nicely prepared ducks and chickens to the home of Brigham Young and the apostles.

She also helped her mother make pillows and feather beds by stuffing the feathers in them. Mother (Ann) at this time was young and spry and went to market neatly dressed with a smiling face--and the whole family would accompany her and put their best foot forward rejoicing and being so happy to be able to work for the prophet Brigham Young and his apostles.

One of the apostles gave father a beautiful book with a large picture of Brigham Young on the front of it. It was one of our prized possessions. One day when mother had gone to the market, Mary took the beautiful book down off the shelf and all the children were so delighted to kiss the picture of Brigham Young that they rubbed the nose off the picture. We all had to learn by degrees."

When the grasshoppers came and devoured their crops and food was scarce many of the saints had to live on roots dug from the ground. There was one whole week that Mary never tasted bread, she would say, "Keep the bread for the babies and I will eat some roots with a little milk."

Mary's family lived in Salt Lake City for eight years then her father, John, sold their home and with his wife and daughters moved to a new settlement in Heber City, Utah. They arrived in this new settlement on Mary's eighth birthday the 20th of May 1860. It took three days with oxen team to drive from Salt Lake City to Heber City and all the way the little girls sang, "The 20th day of May is Mary's birthday!" John and Ann lived the rest of their lives in Heber City. Soon after they arrived they secured some land and also a place in the fort where John made a dougout for his family to live in until he could put in his crops. He also supervised the building of the first school house built which was constructed of logs and stood in the old fort. This building served for schools, meetings, dances and other public gatherings for about five years. Mary attended school and church in this building.

As the settlement of Heber City grew Mary attended other schools and her father was able to provide a bigger, better home for his family. Sister Janett says of this time, "Mary did enjoy the conveniences in their new home and the schools she attended. She loved all the frivolities of school life--coasting, snowballing and skating on the frozen ponds of ice, also riding in the long sleds in the winter time with the oxen pulling the sled. She loved to make candles to light the little log rooms for their little plays and dances.

Mary was our older sister and was a leader and helper to all of us during our childhood days and a comfort and guide to us in our married lives. She always helped father with all the work as our boys in the family were too small. She made money picking and drying hops and selling them to dealers. She also made money by picking currants. She was a lovely vision to all of us in the family."

Mary loved to sing and dance and appear in amateur plays. She was young, slim and pretty and full of life and while acting in an amateur play she became acquainted with James Duke, a very popular man with a great personality. He was president of the Dramatic Society Association. He acted in and directed the first plays produced in Heber City. He was instrumental in building the first play house or theater hall as it was called. He also played the fiddle for the dances and was well liked by everyone. For many years he arranged the amusements for the early pioneers of Heber City.

Mary and James fell in love and he asked her to be his plural wife. He had been married to his first wife, Almira More, since 1851 and they had seven children at this time. Mary had been going with a fine young man who was single and he also asked her to marry him, but she turned him down to become the plural wife of James Duke. So on October 3, 1868, in the Salt Lake City Endowment House, Mary at age sixteen and James Duke at age thirty-nine became married.

Zoe Hansen, Mary's granddaughter asked her aunt Christina Duke, the wife of Mary's oldest son (Johnathon or "Dick") how in the world could great grandfather and grandmother Murdoch (John & Ann) consent for their oldest child who had been such a comfort and help to them, to marry a man twenty-three years older than she, especially when he had a wife and such a large family. She said they tried very hard to persuade her to marry her single young man, but she had fallen in love with the popular Mr. Duke and was bound and determined to marry him. Zoe goes one to say, "I have wondered many times if she hadn't regretted this decision. She loved her eight children and was always loyal to her husband although her life was a bitter struggle to survive.

Mary was a firm believer in the gospel and all the principals taught by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints including, polygamy, taught at that particular time. In fact she had seen the principal of polygamy demonstrated with great harmony in her own family. Her father, John Murray Murdoch had been married for fourteen years to Ann Steele

and had seven children by her, five living, when he took a second wife, Isabella Crawford. She was a pretty dark haired young woman who had joined the Church in Scotland and had come to live in Zion. They were married when Mary was ten years old and for six years before her marriage she had witnessed a plural marriage that had been most successful. During those six years six new babies were born into her family so she must have had to help a lot since she was the oldest child.

Grandma Ann and Grandma Bella as they were called were not only polygamous wives but they were dear freinds and helped each other raise their children as if they were their own. I have heard my mother (Janet Duke Hansen) and grandmother (Mary M. Duke) say that there had never been a quarrel or harsh word between them. I remember when I was visiting my grandmother Duke when I was very young in Heber City, I saw two darling little ladies arm in arm coming up the walk smiling. They were both dressed black with long full skirts, black silk blouses with high necks, over their shoulders small black beaded capes. On their heads little black bonnets with brims on them tied under their chins in a bow. They patted my head and said "You must be Netties little blonde girl." They were so noble and quaint I have never forgotten them. At the same time I remember visiting the duplex with by grandmother Duke. She explained to me that each wife had her own side of the home."

Mary Murdoch Duke was married to James Duke for twenty-four years. He died in Wallsburg at the home of his first wife, when he was 63 years old, leaving Mary a widow at age forty. But, in all her married life she had the responsibility of supporting and taking care of her large family. In the first thirteen years of her marriage, she had eight children. She lived all of her married life to James Duke on the corner now known as 2nd East in a dirt roof house. There were not many who suffered more hardships than she did. She was a wonderful hard working women, making her own living washing, ironing, nursing, and dressmaking while taking care of her eight children.

Her mother had taught her how to sew as her mothers mother, had taught her how to in Scotland. Her grandmother Steele had been commissioned to sew and decorate a lovely dress for Queen Victoria. Under her mother's tutelage Ann become so skilled in embroidering that she was allowed to embroider flowers on this beautiful dress for Queen Victoria. Thus Mary with this skill and knitting taught to her by her father, John, was helped to support her family. Her reputation as a fine seamstress spread and she made many beautiful dresses for the women of Heber City. One was a beautiful wedding dress for Aunt Teen Duke (Christina), her oldest son, "Dicks", wife. It was made of white organdy with ruffles all around the bottom and a petticoat about five yards around. Annie Rasband, Mary's niece said, "Janet (Duke Hansen) used to come to Heber City from Park City when she was a young girl with the most beautiful stylish clothes made by her mother, Mary. who was working in Park City at the time. She would let me try them and I was so impressed. She was the envy of the young ladies of Heber City."

Shortly after Mary was married, James bought some land for a farm in Wallsburg and he built a home for his first wife and her family that grew to a total of eleven children in all. He evidently spent most of his time on the farm trying to feed his large families. He must have helped with Mary and her family some, but in most dairies and journals it tells how Mary had to work and struggle, and suffered while raising her family but then many pioneer women at that time did. In between farming James Duke worked as a mason. His father Jonathon O. Duke was bound out as an apprentice to learn the mason trade for ten years in England and he taught James who in turn taught Johnathan, Mary's oldest son this trade. When they built the Stake house he and Johnathan plastered the whole building. His first wife, Almira, would come over where they were paid on pay day and draw all their wages, time after time leaving no money for Mary's family. Aunt Teen (Christina) Duke Johnathan's wife said "I don't know how Mary ever made it because Grandpa Duke did very little for her."

When Mary was seventeen, after four days and nights of suffering, her son Johnathan Murdoch Duke was born. You could almost say mother and son grew up together. She always said he was one of the pioneers. At ten years of age he was doing a man's work helping to support the family. In Johnathon Murdoch's history in "How Beautiful Upon the Mountains" it says, "Each child had to do his share to help with the living. Dick herded their four cows and as many more as he could get. He took them to the foothills above the cemetery. He did this until he was older and could do more work. He worked one summer for Henry McMullin's mother, who was building a hotel where Ashton's store now stands. For this work he added a room with two small rooms upstairs to their one room home. His mother was made very happy. He next worked for Will Clegg for lumber and added a room on the back of the house. They thought they were in heaven to have a house that the rain didn't come in."

Grandma Duke, Mary's mother-in-law gave Mary ten acres of hay land which young Dick had to work half of the summer to get the hay up so they would have some to sell and feed their animals.

In their little two roomed house Mary's eight children were born. Johnathan Murdoch Duke 1869, Mary Ann 1871, Janet 1873, Lillie Isabell 1875, John Murray, 1877, Archibald Kerr 1878, James Monroe 1881, and Thomas T. 1883. When Mary was twenty-five years old her fifth child, John Murray fifteen months old, died of summer complaint (called commonly diarrhea) In 1880 when she was twenty-eight years old she and three of her children came down with the dreaded diptheria. The children were Dick, Lillie, and Archie Kerr. It was a heart rendering time for this little mother. Archie died of this terrible disease

November 6th. Dick was on the point of death for many days and recovered after a long illness. Mary and daughter Lillie were very ill but finally recovered also. The only medicine Mary had to doctor her children with was alcohol. She would dip a cracker in alcohol and feed it to the children. Dick said "It was terrible". Her oldest little daughters Doll (Mary Ann) and Net (Janet) ages nine and seven were banished out in back lot and stayed in an old buggy, their only food was dried sarvis berries. (Editors question: Where was the rest of the Murdoch family and the Relief Society?) They were not allowed in the house for fear they would get this very contagious disease.

Four years later, little baby Thomas, one year old, died of summer complaint. He was Mary's eighth and last child. So by age thirty-two she had bore eight children and lost three of them to illness. As her family began to grow up they were able to work and help Mary with the food and clothing for the family. The little girls would go out and do the housework and take care of children.

Between 1891 and 1893 three of Mary's children were married and James Duke died. Dick (Johnathan) married Christina Lindsay, Mary Ann (Doll) married Robert Simpson and Lillie married Archie Shanks. Mary had the opportunity to live with the family of Dr. Lindsay and to care for his son Crawford. She remained there one year. At this time she had only one child at home, James Monroe (Roe), who was about eleven or twelve years old. He went to live with his brother Dick and wife Christina. He remained with them until he married. Nettie (Janet) Mary's other daughter was working in Park City. During one of Mary's visits there she met the Keith family. Mr. Keith had struck it rich in a silver mine in Park City and had become a millionaire. Their son, David, was five months old and they wanted a nurse for him. So Mary was employed for this work. She lived in the beautiful mansion the Keiths had built on Brigham Street (South Temple) in Salt Lake City, Utah. The Keiths became very fond of Mary and she was always treated as a member of the family. They spent most of their winters in California, New York, and Florida. One year they toured Europe. Mary visited many interesting places. In Italy, they visited Naples and climbed to the crater of Mount Vesuvius and looked down into it. They visited the Blue Grotto in Capri, also the ruins of Herculium and Pompei in Naples, Italy.

But, the greatest thrill of her trip to Europe was her visit to Scotland and the old home of her ancestors in the towns of Gaswater and Kirkconnel. Her mother and father were born and married in Scotland. She visited some of her mother's sisters and one brother. She took young David with her and when she got off the train there were many people waiting at the depot, but she had no trouble locating her mother's sisters, the family resemblance was so great she walked right up to them. They were all delighted to see her and graciously gave her many tea parties so she could meet the family and their friends.

When Mary returned to Utah she brought back some beautiful scotch-plaid shawls for her mother, daughters and daughter-in-laws. When she came home to Heber City, the entire Murdoch Clan, including grandparents, parents, children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren and babies, eagerly gathered to hear Mary tell them all about their dear family they had left behind when they joined the Church about 45 years before. Annie Rasband told Zoe Hansen Johnson, the following about the occasion, "There was great excitement because Mary was the first member of the family to visit Scotland since 1852. She said Mary was beautifully dressed and had a lovely figure. She seemed quite sophisticated to us. Mary was delighted to be with her family again and felt very thankful to her Heavenly Father that she had the opportunity to visit the homeland and make this wonderful trip."

When David Keith was five years old it was necessary for him to have a governess instead of a nurse. So Mary came back to Heber City. She had had a marvelous experience living in luxury in the beautiful Keith Mansion for five years. She remained friends with the Keiths, especially David and visited them often. At her funeral a huge blanket of pink roses with the words "Nanny" written on it, was sent by young David Keith Jr.

Mary was glad to return to her home in Heber City and enjoy the beauty of the mountains and lovely green valley. She said the mountains reminded her of the alps in Switzerland, although they were not quite so high.

After resting for a while she went to live in Park City in the home of her cousin James "D" Murdoch, whose wife Lizzy Lindsay had passed away in December 1896 leaving four little children the oldest being thirteen. She was a devoted mother for a few months to these children and loved them like they were her own. At one of the Murdoch Reunions a daughter of James "D", Ruby Hooper told how much they had loved Mary and how she made their home a happy beautiful place when they so needed her love and understanding. James "D" remarried in Nov 1898 so Mary went back to Heber City.

In 1900 her daughter Janet (Nettie) married Arthur Emmanuel Hansen. She lived in Park City and had five daughters and one son.

On June 12, 1906 Mary married William M. Ryan a widower. He had been a childhood sweetheart. They lived eleven very happy years together. Granddaughter, Zoe Hansen Johnson, writes the following about this part of Mary's life, "He built her a beautiful little bungalow on the side of a stream in Heber City. They were very happy together and really enjoyed life and the next eleven years were probably the happiest of her life. This is the period that I knew my grandmother and grandfather. They were grandma and grandpa Ryan. We all loved grandpa Ryan, he was cheerful and was always doing nice things for us when we visited in Heber City. It was a great event when they both visited us in Park City. He always had nickles to give to the kids and spent time playing with us.

I remember my grandmother Ryan as being blond, small and slim. She was always neatly dressed. She was a talented seamstress and her clothes were all beautifully made and fitted well.

The most exciting time of my life as a little girl was the one week vacation each summer spent with grandma and grandpa Ryan in their new bungalow in Heber City. We lived in Park City and four of my sisters and my one brother were invited to spend a week with them, one at a time. Grandma always acted as though it was a great pleasure to have us visit her and planned many events during the week. (Now that I am a grandmother I marvel at her patience--spending five weeks of her summer entertaining noisy little kids.)

I loved the first step into her little bungalow, it smelled like new lumber and sweetpeas. A large clock hanging on the wall seemed to have the loudest tick in the world. I would sit in a rocking chair and listen to that clock tick and at night sleeping in the big guest room on a feather bed, I was almost afraid. Everything was so quiet except the tick of that big clock in the middle of the night. I missed sleeping with my sisters and was just a bit home sick.

One of the special things that grandma planned was breakfast in the summer house. Sloping down from the main house was an incline and through this incline a small swift creek ran through their yard.

Down from the bungalow, a summer house was built over the creek, consequently the summer house was always cool. In the summer house of one room, was a stove, a breakfast table, and a cupboard. I loved to sit with grandma and have breakfast there and listen to the sound of the creek rushing by. Grandma put up all her fruit and vegetables in the summer house, because it was so cool there.

Grandma always planted beautiful flowers along the creek. At the side of the summer house, was a trellis covered with beautiful sweetpeas. It was so much fun to sit and play beside the creek, to throw rocks into it, to lie back on the sloping lawn and look for four leaf clovers.

At the back of the yard was a barn, where she kept her pretty white horse and buggy. She also had chickens and she always let us gather the eggs. This was an exciting event to us kids from Park City. Occasionally she would give two or three eggs to take to Uncle Dave Murdoch, her brother's grocery store, where we would buy penny candy. This was really a great adventure! One time when my sister Mary and I were staying with grandmother we decided to take two of the eggs we had gathered to the store without telling grandma. Mary hid them in her blouse. We had just told grandma there were no more eggs that day, when Mary turned suddenly and the two eggs fell to the floor and crushed. Grandma just smiled and told us quietly to clean up the mess. It was a good lesson for us, we were terrible embarrassed and humiliated.

Grandma had her own pretty white horse and one seated buggy with fringe around the top. She could go out in the barn all dressed up looking so stylish and talk softly to her horse while she hitched it to the buggy in a few minutes.

I remember one summer my mother was also visiting my grandmother. That day Heber City was celebrating an anniversary of the Black Hawk War and they were having a band concert and big celebration down town. We all dressed in our best clothes. I remember mother and grandma looked so lovely in their white high necked lace blouses with their long white skirts with many petticoats underneath. They both had on big summer hats trimmed with flowers and feathers.

I sat in the back, with my legs hanging out over a shiny box like seat, I had on my new Mary Janes and my 4th of July dress. I felt so proud to be riding along in this new buggy with two lovely ladies to attend this celebration.

We still visited Aunt Teen Duke and Lillie Shanks in Heber City after my grandmothers death but it was never the same happy time. My cousin Lola Bell Shanks and good friend and I used to walk by the bungalow and look longingly at the creek and the summer house. It belonged to someone else now and we felt sad."

Mary Murray Murdoch Duke Ryan passed away December 20, 1917 at the age of sixty-three. She died of cancer and was laid to rest in the Heber City Cemetery.

Five of Mary's children preceeded her in death. The three babies previously mentioned and James Monroe Duke died six months after his marriage to Mary Alice (May) Pinnock. Seven months after his death a baby son was born to his name. The mother named him after his father James Monroe. May was a wonderful mother to their child. She taught school to provide for him. Later she married Robert Simpson, who had been the husband of Doll (Mary Ann) and they had three girls and two boys.

Doll, wife of Robert Simpson died at the age of 43 of childbirth, her child was never born, she was the mother of four girls and two sons. She is buried in Logan Cemetery.

Lillie who married Archie Shanks was the mother of eight children. She died in 1940 in Los Angeles, California.

Nettie married Arthur Hansen in the Salt Lake Temple. She died of a stroke in the bathtub at the home of her daughter Mary in 1940. She had six children.

Dick, the eldest, wandered away and was lost eight days and nights, before his body was found. He had six children.

So Mary Murray Murdoch Duke had 27 grandchildren and many descendants today that can be thankful for the sacrifices she made in behalf of them in her life time.

SOURCES: Histories written by: Zoe Hansen Johnson (Granddaughter) Christina Lindsay Duke (Daughter-in-law)

History on Microfilm at the Genealogical Library. Film # 247,886

"How Beautiful Upon the Mountains" by the Wastach D.U.P.

John Murray Murdoch letter submitted by Virginia Hansen Davis

Family Group Sheets Genealogical Library and James Murdoch family Records

HISTORY OF JAMES DUKE

James Duke was the oldest child of Jonathan Oldham Duke and Mary Stone. He was born in Albany, New York on December 21, 1829.

He came with his parents to Nauvoo in 1840 and as a boy of eleven years of age, saw and heard Joseph and Hyrum Smith preach many times. He and his brothers, John and Robert, used to relate how that on the day they were murdered in Carthage Jail, these boys were playing in a creek near Nauvoo and they said the water turned red, almost like blood. They were also in the grove at Nauvoo when Brigham Young was transformed so that he looked and talked just like Joseph Smith. He remembered many of the sufferings and persecutions of the Mormon people in and around Nauvoo and after they were driven from their homes in Nauvoo and forced across the Missouri River, sick and without shelter. The mobs sent their cannon balls all around them but their lives were preserved. They bore testimony to the fact that while the saints as a body were lying in a destitute condition after being driven away from their homes, that a very large flock of quails came into the camp and perched on their tents and wagons, so that even the sick could stretch forth their hands and take them.

In their coming to Utah in 1850, James seemed to have been the teamster and hunter, but we learn from his father's journal, that one day, just returning from a buffalo hunt, he was taken down by mountain fever and was so bad they had to lay over a few days. They stopped near the Chimney Rock on the Sweetwater River. He improved and was able to go on and catch up with the train.

They lived in the Twelfth Ward in Salt Lake City for a year.

In the spring of 1851, they went to Provo, obtained some land and built a home. He worked with his father and helped build some of the first buildings in Provo.

On the October 10, 1851 he married Almira Moore, who bore him eleven children. She was left a widow many years after his death.

Soon after going to Provo, a company of men on horseback, he went to what was called White Mountain in southern Utah. There they found a very rich silver ore. They brought enough back to make a sacrament set for the Tabernacle in Salt Lake City. Many tried to find the place where the ore was found, but never found it.

He came to Heber in 1860 among the first settlers. He was president of the dramatic association for some years. A prominent actor in early days when people had to furnish their own amusements. He was a drummer in the Territorial Militia during the Black Hawk War in 1866 and 1867. He sometimes acted as an Indian interpreter. He built the old Heber tithing office and President Hatch's first house in Heber. He was engaged most of the time in farming after coming to this valley.

In October 1868, he married Mary Murray Murdoch as a plural wife and she bore him eight children.

He later got some land in Wallsburg and built a home there for his first wife and her family, where he died May 20, 1892, leaving two widows and large families. (The youngest child would have been eleven at this time. Insert by Editor)

James Duke was a very friendly man, a promoter of amusements. He was the chief fiddler at the dances for many years. He was a member of the High Priests quorum and a firm believer in the gospel and that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God and was duly authorized to organize his church on the earth. To this he often bore his testimony.

Although he never accumulated much of this worlds goods, he was rich in kind words and deeds and had the love and good will of his associates.

Mary Murdoch Duke was left with quite a family. She had a struggle to raise them, but she was a hard worker and succeeded remarkably well in caring for them. She was engaged as a governess in the David Kieth family. She took care of young David.

While living with them, she had the privilege of touring Europe with them. While there, she was privileged to visit at the home of her mothers people in Scotland. There were still some sisters and one brother. They still live in the village of Kirkconnel.

Mary Murdoch Duke was a very social and cheerful woman. A firm believer in the gospel and all of the principles taught by the church, including polygamy. In fact, she turned down a single man to marry James Duke and he already had a wife.

Mr. James Duke & Ladies

Your presence is specially requested

At The Heber Hall,

Friday Evening, January 19th, 1893.

A Ball will be given under the auspices of the

Y. M. M. I. Association.

Alexander's Orchestra at 7 p. m.

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

JOHN M. MURDOCK,

J. H. McDONALD,

THOS. H. WATSON,

WM. BUYS,

THOS. S. WATSON.